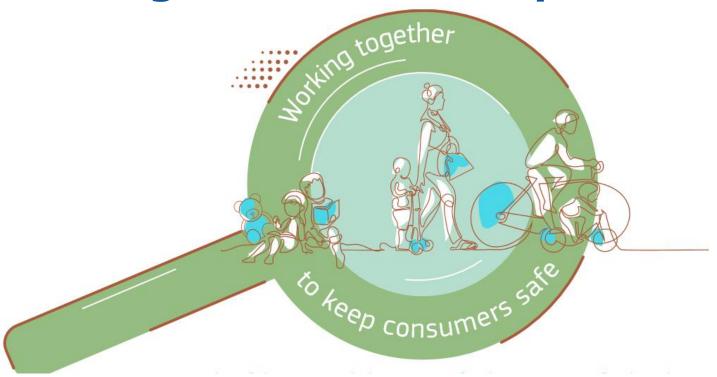


The Rapid Alert System for dangerous non-food products



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Directorate-General Justice and Consumers Product Safety and Rapid Alert System

Brussels, 3 October 2019





European Rapid Alert System for dangerous non-food products – what is it?

System for rapid exchange of information between Member States and EFTA/EEA countries (28+3) and the European Commission about measures and actions taken in relation to products posing a serious risk (food and feed, medical products and devices are excluded)











RAPEX network

a) RAPEX Contact Points network at <u>European level</u>:

31 RAPEX National Contact Points, 1 per MS/EEA

b) National RAPEX network:

- RAPEX Contact Points
- Customs authorities
- Market surveillance authorities
- Etc.









General principles of EU product safety legislation and its enforcement

- Any product placed on the EU market must be safe
- Economic operators have obligations to comply with this requirement
- Authorities have powers to ensure the legislation is complied with
- The European rapid alert system is a fundamental pillar for a safe single EU market
- Enforcement powers are with the authorities of the EU countries (not Commission)



General Product Safety Directive







Obligations for producers & distributors

- ➤ To place only safe products on the market/supply only safe products
- To ensure proper labelling of products/keep & provide the documentation necessary for tracing the product's origin
- > To inform themselves about risks and pass on information

➤ To inform national authorities about dangerous products they have placed on the market

To take appropriate actions and cooperate when risks are discovered

CHAPTER III

Other obligations of producers and obligations of

Article 5

 Within the limits of their respective activities, producers shall provide consumers with the relevant information to enable them to assess the risks inherent in a product throughout the normal or reasonably foreseeable period of its use, where such risks are not immediately obvious without adequate warnings, and to take precautions against those risks.







Responsibilities of Member States

- ✓ Ensuring that producers and distributors comply with their obligations
- ✓ Performance of market surveillance
- ✓ Establish national market surveillance networks and procedures
- ✓ Impose preventive and restrictive measures where relevant (sales ban, withdrawal from the market, recall from consumers)

Specific obligations and powers of the Member States

Antide 6

- Member States shall ensure that producers and distributors comply with their obligations under this Directive in such a way that products placed on the market are safe.
- Member States shall establish or nominate authorities competent to monitor the compliance of products with the general safety requirements and arrange for such authorities to have and use the necessary powers to take the appropriate measures incumbent upon them under this Directive.







Commission's role

- ✓ Monitor that Member States meet their obligations
- ✓ Support a series of activities aimed at ensuring that only safe products are put on the market in Europe, for example by financing coordinated market surveillance activities
- ✓ International collaboration
- ✓ Recognise standards
- ✓ Adopt emergency measures







RAPEX notifications...



...contain information necessary to:

- Identify the product
- Identify the marketing and distribution channels
- Trace origin of the product
- Determine the related risks
- Identify the measures taken to prevent risks

...and when available,

Identify whether the product is counterfeit







RAPEX process

Defect found

Defect is found by the Manufacturer, Importer, Distributer or National authorities PSBG Case

PSBG case is logged if the defect is found by Manufacturer, Importer or Distributer Risk assessment (EC RAG tool)

Detailed risk assessment is made by the National Authorities to evaluate the level of risk (serious/ high/medium/ low) RAPEX notification

Notification in RAPEX is submitted by the relevant National Authorities, validated by the EC and published on the web Measures taken (voluntary/com pulsory)

Customers are notified and relevant measures are being taken to eliminate the defect Notification follow-up by all MS

All Member
States
perform
follow-up
actions to
inform
consumers
and eliminate
the defect on
their territory







Economic operators: Tools to comply with their obligations

1. Business gateway

2. RAG tool (Risk Assessment Guidelines)

Related Links

- Brexit: Notice to stakeholders Withdrawal of the products
- Single Market: trading safe products across Europ
- > Mechanical Hazards Training Seminar in China
- > General product safety egislation
- > Specific products, standards and risks
- Risk assessment application



the latest dangerous products detected



to receive a weekly report alert by email.

Are you buying, selling, importing a product?



on the database of dangerous products

How does the Rapid Alert System work?

The Rapid Alert System for non-food, dangerous products facilitates the rapid exchange of information between the **national authorities** (152 kB) of 31 countries and the European Commission on dangerous products found on the market.

If a manufacturer or distributor finds out that one of their products on sale is dangerous, they have to inform the competent **national contact** (331 kB) in charge of receiving and dealing with alerts of dangerous non-food consumer products sent according to Article 5(3) of the **General Product Safety Directive** (2001/95/EC)

In this case it is recommended to use this too Business GatewayNew

All info at

https://ec.europa.eu/consumers/consumers_safety/safety_products/rapex/alerts/repository/content/pages/rapex/index_en.htm







Business Gateway for Economic Operators

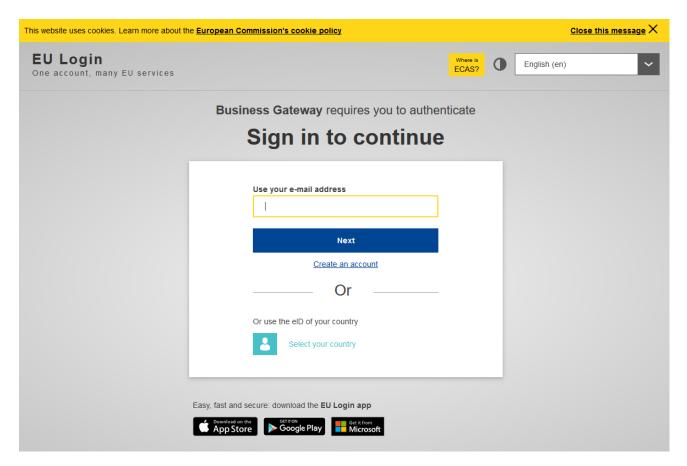
- If a manufacturer or distributor finds out that one of their products on sale is dangerous, they have to inform the competent national authority, in compliance with their obligations under Article 5(3) of the General Product Safety Directive.
- The Business Gateway is an application developed by the Commission for this purpose.
- The submission of notifications through the Gateway is reserved for the producers/distributors of the notified product, or their authorised representative.
- The competent national authority may use the information provided to submit a RAPEX notification if all criteria for this are met.





Authentication via EU login

In order to login to the Business Gateway system, you need an EU Login account.

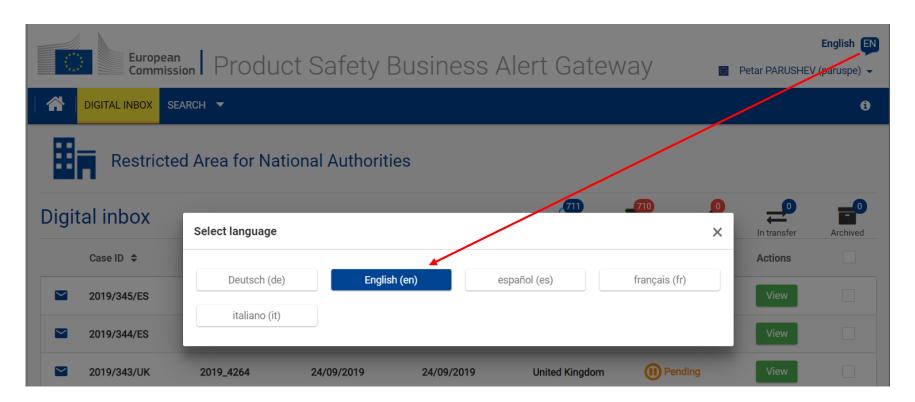


Business Gateway URL: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/gpsd/





Interface languages



✓ The PSBG application is available in 5 EU languages





PSBG home page for economic operators



Detailed user instructions



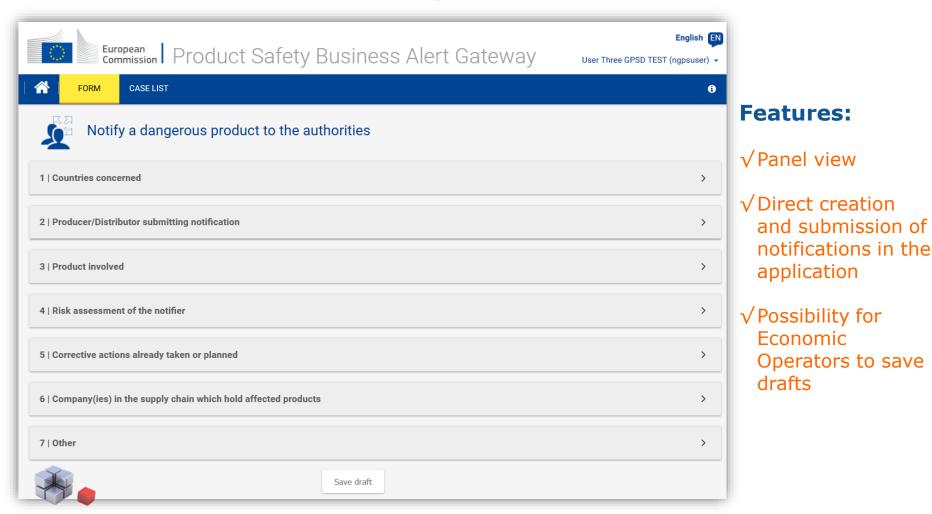








Business Gateway case submission form

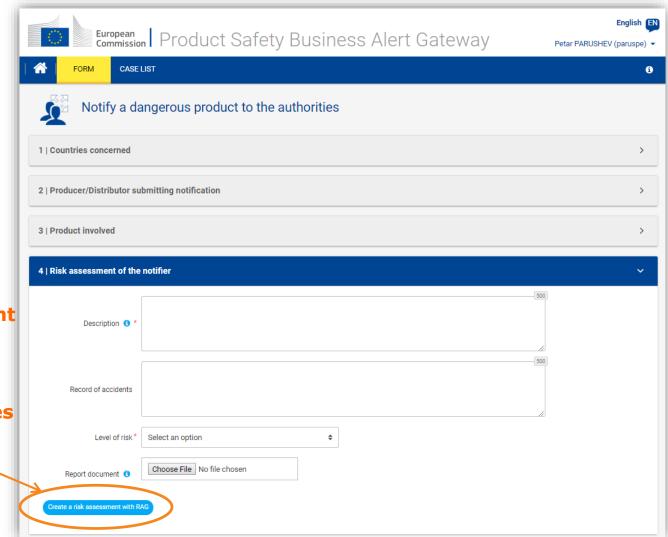


European Commission | Product Safety Business Alert Gateway



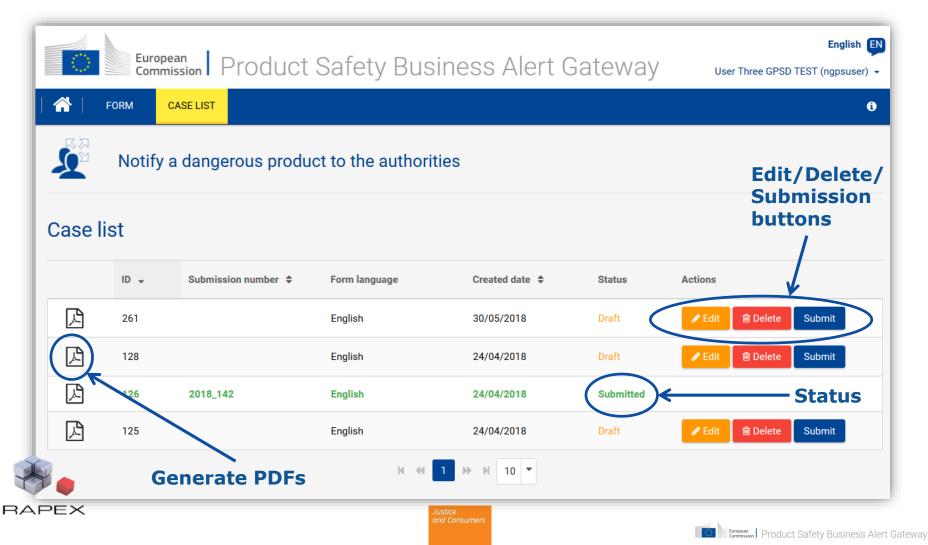
Inclusion of RAG tool

- align risk assessment approaches used by businesses
- √ align with part b) of the RAPEX guidelines



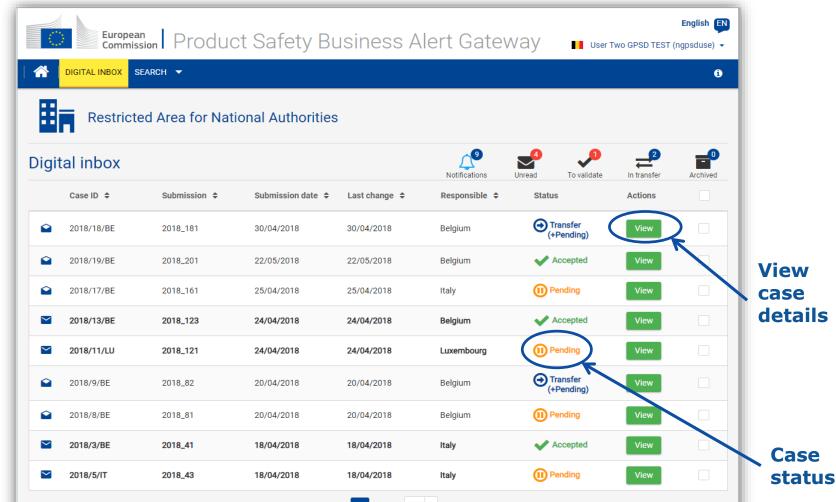


Business Gateway case list for economic operators





Business Gateway «Digital Inbox» for National Authorities



European Commission | Product Safety Business Alert Gateway





Business Gateway statistics

- > Before the revamp:
- Between 2009 and 2018: submission of +/- 2700 cases
- After the revamp:
- In the 2nd Quarter 2018: revamp of the application: it became the Product Safety Business Alert Gateway aka "Business Gateway"
- Since then, 720 cases have been submitted by economic operators
 - o 190 where FR has been identified as Main MS concerned
 - o 139 where NL has been identified as Main MS concerned
 - 109 where ES has been identified as Main MS concerned
 - o 103 where DE has been identified as Main MS concerned
 - o 31 where SE has been identified as Main MS concerned
 - 30 where BE has been identified as Main MS concerned

Risk level

- o 213 cases of a serious risk and 147 with high risk have been identified since 2018
- Product categories
 - 177 notifications on motor vehicles, 121 notifications on electrical appliances, 108 notifications on toys, 28 notifications on childcare articles, 24 notifications on clothing & textile articles...





RAPEX - Confidentiality

"The information made available to the public is a summary of a RAPEX notification and includes only the details specified in Article 16 of the GPSD, i.e. product identification and information about the risks and measures taken to prevent or restrict those risks.

The Commission and the Member States do not disclose whole notifications to the public, especially not detailed risk descriptions with test reports and certificates or detailed lists of distribution channels, as some of this information, due to its nature, is confidential (professional secrets) and needs to be protected."

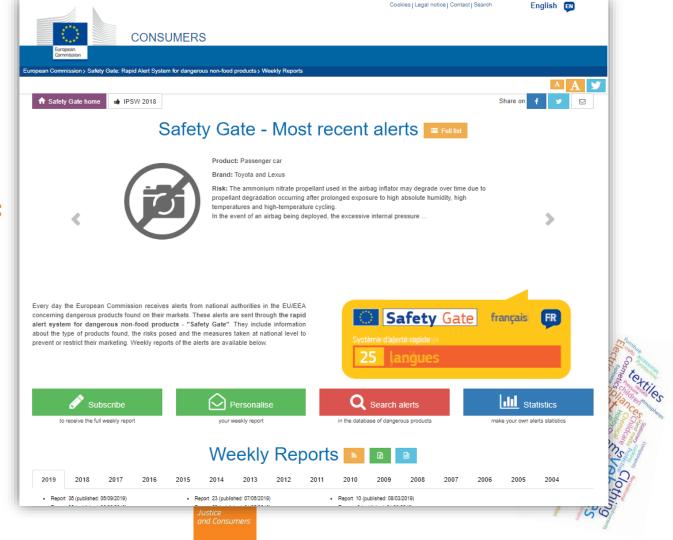






Public part of the Rapid Alert System

 Public set of data from each notification is published on the Safety Gate public website







Thank you for your attention!

For more information visit our website:

http://ec.europa.eu/consumers/consumers_safety/ safety_products/rapex/alerts/repository/content/p ages/rapex/index_en.htm

Or send us an e-mail: just-rapex@ec.europa.eu

